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Request

For

Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450A

Application Number	09/419,305
Filing Date	October 15, 1999
First Named Inventor	MARUTA et al.
Group Art Unit	1652
Examiner Name	R. E. Prouty
Attorney Docket Number	MARUTA=3C

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - Other _____
- Enclosed
 - Amendment/Reply
 - Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required).
- Other _____

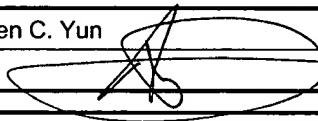
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when RCE is filed.

- The director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-4035 12/24/2003 SZEWDIE1 00000097 09419305
 - RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 01 FC:1801 770.00 0P
 - Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) (input \$ _____ already paid for: 1252 month(s) extension of time 600.00 0P)
 - Other _____
- Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed (Check No. _____)
- Credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) authorized in the amount of \$ 1,190.00

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

- Provisional extension of time if needed. Applicants authorize any charge of additional fees (except issue fee) which may be required in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 02-4035.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Allen C. Yun	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,971
Signature		Date	December 22, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)
Signature	Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.